

(A) **ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY.**—The term “eligible community” means a low-income community with economic hardship that—

(i) is commonly referred to as a colonia;

(ii) is located along the United States-Mexico border (generally in an unincorporated area); and

(iii) lacks basic sanitation facilities such as a safe drinking water supply, household plumbing, and a proper sewage disposal system.

(B) **BORDER STATE.**—The term “border State” means Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas.

(C) **TREATMENT WORKS.**—The term “treatment works” has the meaning provided in section 212(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292(2)).

(2) **GRANTS TO ALLEVIATE HEALTH RISKS.**—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies are authorized to award grants to any appropriate entity or border State to provide assistance to eligible communities for—

(A) the conservation, development, use and control (including the extension or improvement of a water distribution system) of water for the purpose of supplying drinking water; and

(B) the construction or improvement of sewers and treatment works for wastewater treatment.

(3) **USE OF FUNDS.**—Each grant awarded pursuant to paragraph (2) shall be used to provide assistance to one or more eligible community with respect to which the residents are subject to a significant health risk (as determined by the Administrator or the head of the Federal agency making the grant) attributable to the lack of access to an adequate and affordable drinking water supply system or treatment works for wastewater.

(4) **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.**—The Administrator and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, other entities or border States are authorized to use funds appropriated pursuant to this subsection to operate and maintain a treatment works or other project that is constructed with funds made available pursuant to this subsection.

(5) **PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.**—Each treatment works or other project that is funded by a grant awarded pursuant to this subsection shall be constructed in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Administrator, the head of the Federal agency making the grant, or the border State in which the eligible community is located. The standards for construction applicable to a treatment works or other project eligible for assistance under title II of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1281 et seq.) shall apply to the construction of a treatment works or project under this subsection in the same manner as the standards apply under such title.

(6) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 1996 through 2003.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United

States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the Secretary of the Senate, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2539) to abolish the Interstate Commerce Commission, to amend subtitle IV of title 49, United States Code, to reform economic regulations of transportation, and for other purposes, and asks a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon; and appoints the following Members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

From the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for consideration of the House bill, and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. CLINGER, Mr. PETRI, Mr. COBLE, Ms. MOLINARI, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. RAHALL, and Mr. LIPINSKI.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1788. An act to reform the statutes relating to Amtrak, to authorize appropriations for Amtrak, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following measures were read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 1438. A bill to establish a commission to review the dispute settlement reports of the World Trade Organization, and for other purposes.

S. 1441. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 1996 through 1999 and to abolish the United States Information Agency, the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Agency for International Development, and for other purposes.

The following measure was read the first and second time by unanimous consent and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1788. An act to reform the statutes relating to Amtrak, to authorize appropriations for Amtrak, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1641. A communication from the White House Chief of Staff, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of certification relative to the Executive Office of the President's Drug Free Workplace Plan; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1642. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the list of General Accounting Office reports and testimony for October 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1643. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1644. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to amend 5 U.S.C. section 5706 to authorize the head of an agency to reimburse Federal employees for taxes incurred on money received for travel expenses; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1645. A communication from the Director of the U.S. Information Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1, 1995, through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1646. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to authorize financial institutions to disclose to the Office of Personnel Management the names and current addresses of their customers who are receiving, by direct deposit or electronic funds transfer, payment of Civil Service Retirement benefits under chapter 83 or Federal Employees' Retirement benefits under chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1647. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to provide for accrual accounting of retirement costs for Federal civilian employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1648. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Inspector General Act for the period April 1 through September 30, 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1649. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of surplus real property transferred for public health purposes for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1650. A communication from the Under Secretary of the Treasury (Domestic Finance), transmitting, pursuant to law, relative to the debt limit and the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund (CSR); to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1651. A communication from the Under Secretary of the Treasury (Domestic Finance), transmitting, pursuant to law, relative to the debt limit and the Federal Employees' Retirement System Government Securities Investment Fund (FERS); to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1652. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled “Performance Audit of the Office of Emergency Preparedness;” to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.